



ANNO QUINQUAGESIMO

GEORGII III. REGIS.

Cap. 19.

An Act for better assessing and collecting the Poor and other Rates, in the Parish of *Lambeth*, in the County of *Surrey*; and regulating the Poor thereof. [24th *March* 1810.]

WHEREAS the Poor within the Parish of *Lambeth*, in the County of *Surrey*, are very numerous, and are maintained and supported at a great Expence, and by Means of very heavy Rates: And whereas the Laws and Statutes now in force within this Realm, for the assessing and collecting of Monies for the Relief and Maintenance of the Poor, are found ineffectual in the said Parish, by Reason that divers Houses within the said Parish are let to occasional Occupiers, and also let out in Parcels to Undertenants, and to Lodgers in separate Apartments, both furnished and unfurnished, and others are let at small yearly Rents: And whereas it would tend to the Equalization and Reduction of the present Poor and other Parochial Rates within the said Parish, and to the great Alleviation of many industrious Families who now pay the same, and of the Inhabitants of the said Parish in general, if further and additional Powers were given for the assessing and collecting of such Rates, and for better maintaining and regulating the Poor thereof: May it therefore please Your Majesty that it may be enacted; and be it enacted by the King's most Excellent Majesty, by and with the Advice and Consent of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, and Commons, in this present Parliament assembled, and by the Authority of the same, That from and after the passing of

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For the more effectually assessing the Poor, and other Parochial Rates, within the Parish.

this Act, it shall and may be lawful to and for the Churchwardens and Overseers of the Poor, or the major Part of them, from Time to Time, as often as they shall find necessary, to employ any competent Person or Persons to assist in making and ascertaining the annual Value of all or any Houses, Lands, Tenements, Hereditaments, and all other Property whatsoever liable to be assessed to any Rate for the Relief and Maintenance of the Poor, and to pay out of any Money received or receivable from or under such Rate or Rates, such Sum or Sums of Money to every such Surveyor or Surveyors, or other competent Person or Persons, for his or their trouble therein, as to the said Churchwardens and Overseers, or the major Part of them, shall appear just and reasonable: Provided always, that no Person shall be capable of acting as a Surveyor or Valuer as aforesaid, until he shall have taken and subscribed the Oath following, before the said Churchwardens and Overseers, or any Two or more of them, which Oath any Two or more of them are hereby empowered to administer:

‘ I A. B. do swear [or affirm as the Case may be] that I will truly, impartially and honestly execute the Trust in me reposed as a Surveyor and Valuer, under and by virtue of an Act made in the Fiftieth Year of the Reign of His present Majesty, intituled, [here insert the Title of this Act.]

‘ So help me GOD.’

Churchwardens and Overseers to appoint Collectors.

II. And in order the better to enable the Churchwardens and Overseers of the Poor of the said Parish of *Lambeth* to collect and levy the said Rates, be it further enacted, That it shall be lawful for the said Churchwardens and Overseers of the Poor, or the major Part of them, and they are hereby required, at a public Vestry Meeting to be held for that Purpose, to appoint One or more Person or Persons to be a Collector or Collectors of the Pours Rates, and other Rates to be made, collected and levied by virtue of this Act (every such Collector being a resident Householder in the said Parish), and out of such Rate or Rates, Assessment or Assessments, to make such Allowances by way of Salary or Poundage to the said Collector or Collectors, not exceeding Four Pence Halfpenny in the Pound, on the Monies actually collected, and to revoke, countermand, alter and vary such Allowances, and make others in their stead or not, as to them the said Churchwardens and Overseers of the Poor, or the major Part of them, shall seem meet and proper.

Security to be taken from the Collectors.

III. And be it further enacted, That the said Churchwardens and Overseers shall and may take such Security from such Collector or Collectors respectively, as they the said Churchwardens and Overseers of the Poor, or the major Part of them, shall think proper for the due and faithful Execution of his or their Office of Collector, in all and every Part thereof, and among other Things for the duly accounting for all Monies which, as such Collector or Collectors, he or they shall or may receive, and for the Payment of the same within the Space of Fourteen Days from the Receipt thereof, to the said Churchwardens or Overseers, or to the Banker or Bankers by them, or the major Part of them, appointed to receive the same.

IV. And

IV. And be it further enacted, That the said Churchwardens and Overseers, or the major Part of them, shall and may at all Times at their Will or Pleasure, wholly displace and remove such Collector or Collectors, or any of them; and the said Collector or Collectors, each and every of them, shall, and they are hereby respectively required, at all Times whatever, either upon being so displaced or otherwise, to produce and deliver up to the said Churchwardens and Overseers of the Poor, or the major Part of them, whenever they shall be thereto required, all and every the Rate Book or Books, and all other Papers, Documents, Matters, or Things respecting their said Office or Employment, in order that the said Churchwardens and Overseers of the Poor may take Possession of and retain the same, either for the Purpose of Inspection, safe Custody, or any other Account which to them shall seem meet and expedient.

Collectors to
be removed.

V. Provided always, and be it further enacted, That if any such Collector or Collectors, when thereunto required by the said Churchwardens and Overseers, or the major Part of them, shall refuse, or shall not within Three Days after such Request has been so made to him or them, deliver up such Rate Book or Books, and all and every the Account and Accounts of all Monies by him or them received for or on Account of the said Rates or Assessments, and all Papers, Matters or Things respecting their same Office or Employment, or such and so many thereof as shall have been of them demanded in Manner aforesaid, or shall not upon being thereto required pay the Balance of Monies received which shall appear to remain in his or their Hands, by virtue of his or their respective Office or Offices; then and in every such Case, upon Complaint made by the said Churchwardens and Overseers, or the major Part of them, of any such Refusal or Neglect as aforesaid, to any Justice of the Peace for the said County of *Surrey*, such Justice may, and he is hereby authorized and required to issue a Warrant under his Hand and Seal for the Person or Persons so refusing or neglecting as aforesaid to appear before him; and upon his or their appearing, or if he or they shall not appear, then upon due Proof that the Person or Persons so neglecting to appear had been summoned or could not be found for the Purpose of being summoned, to hear and determine the Matter in a summary Way, and upon the Confession of the Party, or by the Testimony of any credible Witness or Witnesses upon Oath (which Oath such Justice is hereby required and empowered to administer), it shall appear to such Justice that any of the Monies that shall have been collected or received by virtue of this Act, shall remain due from such Collector or Collectors, such Justice may, and he is hereby authorized and required, upon Non-payment thereof, by Warrant under his Hand and Seal, to cause such Money to be levied by Distress and Sale of the Goods and Chattels of such Collector or Collectors, each and every of them; and if it shall appear to such Justice that such Collector or Collectors shall have refused or neglected to render and give such Account, or to produce the Rate or Rates, Book or Books, Papers or Writings, or other Matters or Things relating to the Collection of the Rates, or in anywise respecting or appertaining to the said Office or Employment which shall be in his or their Custody or Power, and required from him or them as aforesaid, or shall not have paid the Balance remaining in his or their Hands in Manner aforesaid, then and in each and every such Case, such Justice shall commit such Offender or Offenders to the common Gaol or House of Correction

Collectors to
account.

for

for the County where such Offender shall be or reside, there to remain without Bail or Mainprize until he or they shall give and make a true and perfect Account, and deliver up such Books, Papers, and Writings, or pay such Balance to the said Churchwardens and Overseers; provided that no such Collector or Collectors so committed shall be confined or detained in Prison by virtue of such Warrant for any longer Space of Time than Six Calendar Months: Provided nevertheless, that no such Commitment of any Collector or other Officer to the House of Correction as aforesaid, shall acquit or discharge any Surety or Security that shall or may have been taken by or given to the said Churchwardens and Overseers, for the due and faithful Execution of the Office of Collector or other Office, in Manner herein-before expressed and provided, nor any Action, Suit, or Process commenced or to be brought for the Recovery of any Money so received.

For Recovery of Rates, on Refusal.

VI. And for the better and more effectually raising and levying the Rates and Assessments directed to be made by this Act, be it further enacted, That in case any of the Landlords or Occupiers, or any Owner or Owners, Proprietor or Proprietors, Lessee or Lessees, of any Land, Ground, Dwelling-house, Shop, Warehouse, Coach-house, Stable, Cellar, Vault, Building, Tenement, or Hereditament within the said Parish, shall refuse or neglect to pay any Rate or Assessment upon him, her or them made, laid and assessed under and by virtue of this Act, or by any other Means, and all Arrears due thereon or upon any former Rate or Rates, it shall be lawful to or for any One or more of His Majesty's Justices of the Peace acting in and for the said County of *Surrey*; and he and they is and are hereby authorized and required to summon by Writing under his or their Hand or Hands, all and every Person and Persons who shall have refused or neglected as aforesaid, upon Oath being made before him or them by the Collector or Collectors appointed by the said Churchwardens and Overseers, or the major Part of them as aforesaid for the Time being, of his or their having attended upon or at the Dwelling-house or last Place of Abode within the said County, of the Person and Persons then intended to be summoned, and having demanded the Rate or Rates, and of such Person or Persons having neglected or refused to pay the same, to appear before such Justice or Justices at a Time and Place to be mentioned in such Summons, or before such other Justice or Justices of the said County as shall be sitting upon the Return of such Summons or Summonses, to hear and determine the Matter therein contained; and it shall and may be lawful to and for the Collector and Collectors appointed, or to be appointed by the said Churchwardens and Overseers of the Poor, or the major Part of them, as aforesaid, or for any of the Constables, Headboroughs, or Beadles of the said Parish, to serve all and every such Summons and Summonses upon all and every Person or Persons, refusing or neglecting to pay as aforesaid, either by delivering the same to the Person or Persons thereby intended to be summoned, or leaving the same at his, her, or their last or usual Place or Places of Abode, or at the Premises for which the Rates mentioned in such Summons shall remain due and owing; and if any Person or Persons so summoned shall refuse or neglect to attend at the Time and Place mentioned in such Summons, or if he, she, or they shall attend and shall not shew good and sufficient Cause to such Justice or Justices, that he, she, or they is or are not chargeable with such Rate or Rates, then and in every such Case all and every such Person

and Persons who shall have been so summoned, shall pay the reasonable Costs and Charges of such Summons; and in all Cases where the said Rate or Rates, or any of them, shall not be paid upon the Return of such Summons, it shall and may be lawful to and for such Justice or Justices, who shall have issued such Summons or Summonses as aforesaid, or some other Justice or Justices of the Peace in and for the said County of *Surrey*, and he or they is and are hereby authorized and required upon Oath made before him or them, of the due Service of such Summons or Summonses by the Party who shall have served the same, to grant a Warrant or Warrants under his or their Hand or Hands, Seal or Seals, authorizing and directing the said Collector or Collectors, or any Constable, Headborough, or Beadle of the said Parish to collect or levy all and every such Rate or Rates, Assessment or Assessments, and all Arrears thereof, and the Expence of the Summons (if the same shall not have been before paid) and Warrant, by Distress of the Goods and Chattels of the Party so neglecting or refusing, which shall be found within the said Parish; and if within Five Days next after any such Distress shall be made, the said Rate or Rates, Assessment or Assessments, with all Arrears due thereon, shall not be paid, together with the reasonable Charges of the said Summons (if such Summons shall not have been before paid for) and Warrant, and of making such Distress, and keeping such Goods and Chattels, the said Collector or Collectors, Constable or Constables, Headborough or Headboroughs, Beadle or Beadles, shall cause the said Goods to be appraised by One or more Appraiser or Appraisers, and to be sold, or such Part or Parts thereof, by Auction or otherwise, as shall be sufficient to pay the said Rate or Rates, Assessment or Assessments, together with all Arrears due thereon, and the reasonable Charges aforesaid, and the Charges of appraising and selling the same, returning the Overplus (if any) to the Owner or Owners of such Goods and Chattels respectively, upon Demand thereof made by him, her, or them.

VII. And be it further enacted, That when the yearly Rent or Value of any House, Tenement, or Hereditament within the said Parish, shall not amount to Twenty Pounds; or where any House, Tenement, or Hereditament (whatever the Yearly Rent or Value may be) shall be let to any weekly or monthly Tenants, the Rent whereof shall become payable at any shorter Period than quarterly, or shall be let out either in the Whole or in Part in Lodgings or in separate Apartments, then and in every such Case it shall and may be lawful to and for the Churchwardens and Overseers of the Poor, or the major Part of them (if they shall think proper), to compound with the Landlord or Landlords, Owner or Owners of all and every, or any such House or Houses, Tenement or Tenements, Hereditament or Hereditaments in the said Parish, for the Payment of the Rate or Rates, Assessment or Assessments, for the Relief and Maintenance of the Poor, and all other the Parochial Rates of the said Parish, at such a reduced yearly Rental as the said Churchwardens and Overseers of the Poor, or the major Part of them for that Purpose shall think reasonable, so that no such House or Houses, Tenement or Tenements, Hereditament or Hereditaments be rated at less than One-third, or more than Three-fifths of the Annual Value of the said Premises; and the Landlord or Landlords, Owner or Owners of all such Houses, Tenements, or Hereditaments, is and are hereby re-

For better Recovery of Rates on Houses let at small Rents.

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quired to enter into such Composition with the said Churchwardens and Overseers of the Poor, or the major Part of them; and in case such Landlord or Landlords, Owner or Owners shall refuse to enter into such Composition, he, she, or they shall from thenceforth be deemed and taken to be the Occupier or Occupiers of such Premises, and shall thereupon be rated to, and from Time to Time shall pay or cause to be paid the Rates or Assessments charged upon the same respective Premises for the Relief of the Poor, and all other the Parochial Rates of the said Parish, according to a fair and equal Assessment by the said Churchwardens and Overseers of the Poor, or the major Part of them, to be made upon and in respect of the same; and upon Non-payment thereof, the said Churchwardens and Overseers, or any of them, are hereby authorized to levy the same by Distress and Sale of the Goods and Chattels of such Landlord or Landlords, Owner or Owners, wheresoever the same may be found respectively: Provided always, that no such Landlord or Owner shall be charged with or liable to pay for any increased Rent, reserved or made payable to him, for or on account of such Landlord or Owner having agreed to pay the Rates heretofore chargeable upon the several Occupiers of such Premises: And provided also, that the Goods and Chattels of all and every Person or Persons renting or occupying any such House, Tenement, or Hereditament, or any Part or Parts thereof, the Rate or Rates, Assessment or Assessments whereof the Landlord or Landlords, Owner or Owners, is and are hereby made liable and subject to as aforesaid, shall be liable at all Times to be distrained and sold for Payment of so much of the said Rates or Assessments, and of all Arrears thereof as became due upon the said Premises, during the Time of his, her, or their Occupancy only; but no such Occupier or Occupiers shall at any Time be required to pay, or be subject or liable to pay any greater Sum for or towards the Discharge of the said Rates or Assessments, or any of them, and Arrears thereof, than the Amount of the Rent actually due by such Occupier or Occupiers to the Landlord or Landlords, Owner or Owners of the Premises so occupied by him, her, or them: Provided also, that each and every Occupier who shall pay any such Rate or Rates, Assessment or Assessments, or any Arrear thereof, or upon whom the same shall be levied, shall and may from Time to Time deduct the same from the Rent then, or at any Time thereafter due from him, her, or them to the respective Landlords or Owners of the Premises; and the Receipt for such Payment shall be a good and sufficient Discharge to such Occupier or Occupiers, to his, her, or their Landlord or Landlords, for so much Money as he, she, or they shall pay in the Manner directed by this Act: Provided also, that no Tenant or Occupier of any House, Tenement, or Hereditament, herein last before referred, shall by reason of his residing in or occupying of the same, or by his Payment of any such Rate or Rates, Assessment or Assessments in Manner aforesaid, or which shall have been compounded for as aforesaid, be deemed to acquire any Settlement in the said Parish; but in every such Case the Landlord or Owner of the Premises shall be deemed and considered to have paid the same, any Law, Statute, or Usage to the contrary thereof in anywise notwithstanding.

Landlords
not to be
rated for re-
served Rents.

Goods may
be distrained
in any other
County.

VIII. And be it further enacted, That the Goods and Chattels of any Person or Persons rated or assessed as aforesaid, and neglecting or refusing to pay the Sum or Sums of Money by him, her, or them respectively payable

able as aforesaid, shall and may be distrained, not only in the said Parish of *Lambeth*, but in any other Place within the said County of *Surrey*; and if sufficient Distress cannot be found in the said County, then upon Oath thereof made before any One or more Justice or Justices of the Peace of any other County, City, Liberty, or Place, in which any of the Goods or Chattels of such Person shall be found or suspected to be (which Oath shall be certified under the Hand or Hands of the said Justice or Justices on the Warrants granted to make such Distress), the Goods and Chattels of the said Person or Persons so neglecting or refusing to pay, shall be subject and liable to such Distress and Sale, in such other County, City, Liberty, or Place where the same shall be found, and may, by virtue of such Warrant and Certificate, be distrained in the same Manner as if the same had been found within the said Parish of *Lambeth*.

IX. And be it further enacted, That every Warrant of Distress for Non-payment of any Rate or Assessment to be made by virtue of this Act, may include one or more Persons, and shall be in Words, or to the Effect following:

Form of
Warrant of
Distress.

‘ *Surrey.* } ‘ To the Churchwardens, Overseers and Collectors of the Poor-
‘ to wit. } ‘ Rates, of the Parish of *Lambeth*, in the County of *Surrey*,
‘ and to all Constables and other Peace-Officers of the same Parish.

‘ **WHEREAS** the undermentioned Persons, now or late Inhabitants,
‘ Holders, Landlords, Tenants, Occupiers, or Enjoyers of Lands,
‘ Houses, Shops, Warehouses, Coach-houses, Stables, Cellars, Vaults, or
‘ other Buildings, Tenements, or Hereditaments, or Part of some Build-
‘ ing or Tenement within the said Parish of *Lambeth*, were and are truly
‘ rated and assessed, or liable to pay the Rate and Rates, duly made for the
‘ Purpose of an Act made in the Fiftieth Year of the Reign of King *George*
‘ the Third, intituled, [*here set forth the Title of the Act*]: And whereas
‘ the said Persons have refused or neglected to pay the several Sums of
‘ Money at and against their Names hereunto respectively set down, due
‘ from them, for or toward the Purposes in the said Act mentioned, and
‘ the said several Sum and Sums are still remaining due, in Arrear, and
‘ unpaid, as appeareth upon Oath to

‘ _____ of His Majesty’s Justices of the
‘ Peace for the said County, and the said several Persons having been
‘ summoned to appear before _____ to

‘ answer the Premises, as also appeareth to _____
‘ _____ the said Justices upon Oath, and

‘ and _____ nor either of them
‘ having shewn any sufficient Cause why such Sum or Sums of Money
‘ should not be paid: These are therefore in His Majesty’s Name, to
‘ will and require you, or either of you, forthwith to levy the said several
‘ Sums due from the said Persons, and hereunto joined to or set against
‘ their Names respectively, by Distress and Sale of their respective Goods
‘ and Chattels (such Goods and Chattels being kept for the Space of
‘ Five Days before the same are sold), rendering to them respectively the
‘ Overplus (if any be), the reasonable Charges of such Distress, Sale and
‘ Keeping being first deducted; and if no sufficient Distress can be had
‘ or taken, that then you certify the same to us, to the End such further
‘ Proceedings may be had therein, as to the Law doth appertain: And

‘ we

we do hereby strictly charge and command all and singular the Constables, and other His Majesty's Peace Officers for the said County, to be aiding and assisting in all Things relating to the Premises. Given under our Hands and Seals this _____ Day of _____ in the Year of our Lord _____

	Sums due.	Costs.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
A. B.		
C. D.		
E. F. the Landlord for divided		
G. H.		

Parties making Distress not to be deemed Trespassers, ab initio.

X. And be it further enacted, That where any such Distress shall be made for any Sum or Sums of Money to be levied by virtue of this Act, the Distress itself shall not be deemed unlawful, nor the Party or Parties making the same be deemed a Trespasser or Trespassers, on account of any Defect or Want of Form in any Proceedings relating thereto, nor shall the Party or Parties be deemed a Trespasser or Trespassers, *ab initio*, on account of any Irregularity which shall be afterwards committed or done by the Party or Parties distraining; but the Person or Persons aggrieved by such Irregularity, may recover full Satisfaction for the special Damage in an Action on the Case, but subject to such Regulations and Restrictions, as is by this Act herein-after provided, touching any Action to be brought for, or in respect of any Matter or Thing done by colour or in performance of this Act.

Manner of appointing Overseers.

XI. And whereas the said Parish of *Lambeth* is divided into four Districts of Liberties, which are called The Bishop's Liberty, The Prince's Liberty, The Marsh and Wall Liberty, and The Vauxhall, Stockwell, and Dean and Chapter Liberty: And the Inhabitants of each of the said Districts or Liberties in Vestry assembled, have of late Years been used and accustomed to nominate Four Persons, being substantial Householders, resident in the said District or Liberty, as Persons fit to be Overseers in and for the said Parish, and a List of the Sixteen Persons so nominated, has afterwards been given in to the Justices acting in and for the Eastern Half Hundred of *Brixton*, in the said County of *Surrey*, at their Petty Session then next ensuing, which Justices at such Session have been used to appoint One out of each of the Four Persons so nominated by each District or Liberty respectively, to be an Overseer in and for the said Parish: And whereas it is expedient that the Mode of choosing and nominating Overseers, should be adopted in Manner as is hereafter mentioned, and that the Number of Overseers should be increased from Four to Eight: And whereas it would tend to the better Management of the said Poor if One Half of the Overseers, to be hereafter appointed, were to go out of Office Half-yearly, the other Half remaining being conversant in the Affairs of the said Parish and in the Office of Overseer: Be it therefore enacted, That on the *Easter Tuesday* next after the passing of this Act, and so in like Manner on the *Easter Tuesday* in each and every succeeding Year, the Inhabitants of each of the said Districts or Liberties of the said Parish of *Lambeth* being rated to and paying the Poor Rate, shall in Vestry assembled, or the major Part of them then present, nominate Four substantial Housekeepers residing within the said District or Liberty,

Liberty, for and by which they shall be so nominated, to serve the Office of Overseers of the Poor of the said Parish : And the Vestry Clerk of the said Parish, shall cause a List of the Names of the Persons so nominated by the said Four Districts or Liberties to be made, which List shall distinctly set forth the several Districts or Liberties by and for which each of the said Persons has been respectively nominated in Manner aforesaid, and shall deliver such List to the Justices of the Peace acting in and for the Eastern Half Hundred of *Brixton* in the said County of *Surrey*, at their next ensuing Petty Session, or any other to be thereafter held : And the said Justices at their said Petty Session, or so soon after as may be, or any Two of them, shall, and they are hereby authorized and required to select and chuse from such List Four Persons, to wit, One out of the Four Persons nominated by and for each District or Liberty respectively, and shall by Writing under their Hands and Seals, appoint the Four Persons so by them selected and chosen to be Overseers of the Poor of the said Parish, who shall continue in their said Office of Overseer until the *Easter Tuesday* following, and until other Persons shall be appointed in Manner aforesaid, to be Overseers in their Stead.

XII. And be it further enacted, That on the Twenty-ninth Day of *September* next after the passing of this Act, and so in like Manner on every Twenty-ninth Day of *September* in each and every succeeding Year, unless the Twenty-ninth Day of *September* shall happen on a *Sunday*, and then on the following Day, the Inhabitants of each of the said Districts or Liberties, or the major Part of them, in Vestry assembled as aforesaid, shall in like Manner nominate Four other substantial Householders residing in such District or Liberty, out of whom One shall be selected and chosen in like Manner to be Overseer of the Poor of the said Parish for the Year then next ensuing ; and the Vestry Clerk of the said Parish shall in like Manner as is herein-before provided in respect to the Nomination and Appointment of the Four Overseers hereby directed to be nominated and appointed on *Easter Tuesday*, prepare a List of the Names of the Sixteen Persons so nominated, which shall distinctly specify the Districts or Liberties for which each of the said Persons shall have been respectively nominated in Manner as is herein-before provided, and shall deliver the same to the said Justices at their next Petty Session, or any other to be thereafter held ; and the said Justices, or any Two of them, shall, and they are hereby authorized and required to select and chuse from such List Four of the said Persons, to wit, One out of each Four Persons so nominated by each District or Liberty, by Writing under their Hands and Seals, to appoint the Four Persons so by them selected and chosen to be Overseers in and for the said Parish, until the Twenty-ninth Day of *September* then next ensuing, or until other Overseers shall be appointed in their Stead.

Further Directions relating thereto.

XIII. Provided always, That Notice shall be given in the said Parish Church on the *Sunday* next before *Easter Tuesday*, and likewise on the *Sunday* next before the said Twenty-ninth Day of *September* respectively, in each and every Year, for such Inhabitants to meet in Vestry, on the *Easter Tuesday* or Twenty-ninth Day of *September* then next ensuing, for the Purpose of nominating Persons to be included in the List, out of which Overseers of the Poor of the said Parish are to be nominated and appointed in Manner aforesaid ; and the Overseers of the Poor of the said Parish shall, for the Time to come, continue to be nominated and appointed in

Notice to be given in the Parish Church of Meetings.

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Manner as is herein before directed, and not otherwise; and if no Petty Session shall be held within One Month after *Easter Tuesday*, or within One Month after the *Twenty-ninth Day of September* respectively, in any Year, then and in each and every such Case, it shall and may be lawful for any Two Justices of the Peace acting in and for the said Eastern Half Hundred of *Brixton*, in the said County of *Surrey*; and they are hereby authorized and required, upon Application made to them for that Purpose, to nominate and appoint by Writing under their Hands and Seals, Four Persons out of such List or Lists as aforesaid, to be delivered to them as aforesaid, to be Overseers of the Poor of the said Parish for the Year then next ensuing, and until new ones shall be nominated and appointed to succeed them; and all such Persons when so nominated and appointed, and having Notice thereof, shall from thenceforth, together with the Churchwardens for the Time being of the said Parish, be and be deemed Overseers of the Poor of the said Parish of *Lambeth*.

In case of
Death of
Overseers,
Trustees to
appoint.

XIV. Provided also, and be it further enacted, That if any of the said Eight Overseers shall die or remove out of the said Parish, then and in every such Case it shall and may be lawful for any Two Justices of the Peace acting in and for the said Eastern Half Hundred of *Brixton*, to nominate and appoint by Writing under their Hands and Seals out of the said List or Lists, One or more Person or Persons, to be Overseer or Overseers of the said Parish for the Remainder of the Year, in the Place or Stead of the Person or Persons so dying or removing as aforesaid, which Person or Persons shall be and become Overseers of the said Parish from thenceforth, as if they had been originally appointed to the said Office in Manner herein before declared and provided.

Churchwar-
dens and
Overseers to
appoint an
Assistant.

XV. And be it further enacted, That it shall and may be lawful for the major Part of the said Churchwardens and Overseers for the Time being, at a Public Vestry Meeting to be held for that Purpose, to elect and appoint a Person at a competent Salary not exceeding the Sum of Two hundred Pounds for the Year, to aid and assist them in the Discharge and Execution of the said Office; and the said Churchwardens and Eight Overseers, and Assistant Overseer, each and every of them, shall, and they are hereby severally required to perform and execute their respective Duty and Duties, Office and Offices, of Overseer and Overseers of the Poor of the said Parish, and they and each of them shall be subject and liable to the like Rules, Regulations, Restrictions, Penalties, and Forfeitures, and shall have and enjoy the like Privileges, Exemptions, and Immunities, as by the general Laws and Statutes of this Realm are imposed upon or given to Overseers of the Poor.

Power for
Churchwar-
dens and
Overseers to
remove
Assistant.

XVI. And be it further enacted, That it shall and may be lawful for the Churchwardens and other Overseers, or the major Part of them, at their free Will and Pleasure, to remove and put out the said Assistant Overseer from his said Office or Employment, and immediately after his Removal, to nominate and appoint some other Person to be Assistant Overseer in his Place, with the like subsisting Authorities and Privileges, and subject to the same Duties as is hereinbefore directed and provided, that the Person originally chosen and appointed by them shall have, sustain or enjoy.

XVII. And

XVII. And be it further enacted, That whenever any poor Person or Persons shall be or ordered to be removed from the said Parish of *Lambeth*, to the Place or Parish of his, her, or their legal Settlement, it shall be lawful for the said Churchwardens and Overseers of the Poor, (if they shall think fit,) to cause such poor Person or Persons to be respectively removed, in the usual Manner of removing Paupers, by a Beadle, or some Person or Persons to be appointed by the said Churchwardens and Overseers of the Poor, or any Two or more of them for that Purpose, by Writing under their Hands, and every Overseer and other proper Officer of the Parish or Place to which such poor Person or Persons shall be ordered to be removed as aforesaid, is hereby required to receive every such poor Person or Persons, in like Manner as he or they would have been bound to do if such poor Person or Persons had been delivered to him, her, or them, by One of the Overseers of the Poor of the said Parish of *Lambeth*, any Law, Custom, or Usage to the contrary notwithstanding.

Paupers to be removed by Beadles, instead of Overseers.

XVIII. And whereas many Persons maintained in Public Workhouses refuse to work, or are guilty of profane cursing, swearing, and abusive Language, or committing Waste of Provisions, or other Materials or Things, of disobeying wholesome Orders and Regulations, and other Misdemeanors and Misbehaviours, and by the Laws now in being no Punishment can be inflicted upon them without committing them to the House of Correction or County Gaol, which Commitments have been found not to answer the Purposes thereby intended; be it therefore enacted, That if any poor Person or Persons, who shall be maintained in any Workhouse or Workhouses, or other Houses for the Reception and Employment of the Poor of the said Parish, shall be guilty of profane cursing, swearing, or abusive Language, or committing Waste of Provisions, or any other Materials or Thing, of disobeying any Orders or Regulations made by the said Churchwardens and Overseers of the Poor, or the major Part of them, or the reasonable Commands of any Person or Persons by the said Churchwardens and Overseers of the Poor, or the major Part of them, put in Authority over them, or any other Misdemeanors or Misbehaviours, that then and in every such Case, it shall and may be lawful to and for the said Churchwardens and Overseers of the Poor, or any of them, at any Meeting to be held in pursuance of this Act, to cause such Person or Persons so offending to be punished in such Workhouse, Workhouses, or other Houses, either by moderate Correction or by Confinement not exceeding forty-eight Hours, or by setting them to hard Labour, or distinguishing them by Dress or Diet, as may best tend to remedy or prevent such Offences in future, without committing such Offender to the House of Correction, any Law, Statute, or Usage to the contrary in any wise notwithstanding.

Punishment of disorderly Persons.

to cause all

XIX. And be it further enacted, That if any Person or Persons shall knowingly buy, or receive into Pawn, or secrete any of the Clothes or Wearing Apparel of any of the Poor who shall be received into and maintained in the Workhouse or Workhouses of the said Parish, or any of the Goods or Materials carried into the said Workhouse or Workhouses, to be wrought up, manufactured, or used by the Poor there, or any of the Goods and Furniture of the said Workhouse or Workhouses, or shall buy or receive any Articles of Food, or other Provisions allotted

Punishment of Persons for buying or taking Goods into Pawn.

to

to or provided for the Poor in the said Workhouse or Workhouses, or shall be aiding or assisting therein, every Person so offending shall forfeit for every such Offence any Sum not exceeding Five Pounds, upon Conviction by the Oath of One or more credible Witness or Witnesses, before any One or more Justice or Justices of the Peace for the said County of *Surrey*, which Penalty, if not immediately paid, shall be levied by Warrant under the Hand and Seal, or Hands and Seals, of the said Justice or Justices, by Distress and Sale of the Goods and Chattels of the Offender or Offenders, one Moiety of the said Penalty to be paid to the Informer or Informers, and the other Moiety to the Churchwardens and Overseers of the said Parish, for the Use of the Poor of the said Parish; and if no Goods or Chattels can be found, whereon to make such Distress, or that the said Penalty shall not be forthwith paid, then and in such Case such Justice or Justices shall and may, by Warrant under his or their Hand and Seal, or Hands and Seals, commit such Offender or Offenders to the House of Correction, there to be kept to hard Labour for any Time not exceeding Three Calendar Months, unless such Penalty and all Expences shall be sooner paid and satisfied.

Penalty on Persons bringing spirituous Liquors into the Workhouse.

XX. And be it further enacted, That no spirituous Liquors shall be conveyed into the said Workhouse or Workhouses, unless with the Permission of the said Churchwardens and Overseers of the Poor, or any Two of them, or by the Order of the Apothecary, or other medical Person appointed to attend the Workhouse; and every Person who shall be convicted of any such Offence, before One or more Justice or Justices of the Peace for the said County of *Surrey*, shall forfeit any Sum not exceeding Five Pounds; which Penalty shall be paid to the Informer or Informers, each and every of whom is and are hereby declared to be a competent Witness or Witnesses, to prove all Matters or Things contained or otherwise respecting the said Information or Informations, notwithstanding he or they being the Informer or Informers therein in Manner aforesaid.

Churchwardens and Overseers to employ Poor in Workhouse.

XXI. And be it further enacted, That it shall be lawful for the said Churchwardens and Overseers, or any Two of them, to cause any Person who shall be received into the said Workhouse or Workhouses, to be employed in any Work, Trade, Manufactory or Employment, or otherwise, as they shall think proper, during the Time they shall continue in the said Workhouse or Workhouses, and shall and may, in case they shall think proper, provide a sufficient Stock of Flax, Hemp, Silk, Wool, Cotton, Thread, Iron, Stone, Wood, Leather, or any other Materials, for the Employment of the Poor received into the said Workhouse or Workhouses; and for that Purpose only may set up, use and occupy any Trade, Mystery or Occupation whatsoever, in the said Workhouse or Workhouses, or other Buildings, and for the Purpose of this Act, may sell and dispose of such Goods, Wares and Merchandize as shall be manufactured or made by such Poor in the said Workhouse or Workhouses, or other Buildings, and bring any Action, or Actions in the Names of the Churchwardens and Overseers of the Poor of the said Parish of *Lambeth*, or in that of any other Person or Persons, to enforce Payment of the Price or Value thereof, or any Contract or Contracts respecting the same, any Law or Usage to the contrary notwithstanding;

and out of the Profits arising from any Work which shall be done by any such Persons, such Gratuities or Rewards shall be distributed to the industrious and skilful, according to the Quantity and Perfection of their Work, as to the said Churchwardens and Overseers, or any of them, shall appear reasonable and proper, and the Remainder of the Profits shall be applied by the said Churchwardens and Overseers, or the major Part of them, in Aid of the Pours Rate of the said Parish.

XXII. And be it further enacted, That the Rector of the said Parish of *Lambeth* for the Time being shall and may from Time to Time appoint a Clergyman of the Church of *England*, to instruct such Persons as shall be maintained in such Workhouse or Workhouses, in the Principles of the Christian Religion, and also to visit the Sick, and perform other Duties of his Profession in the said Workhouse or Workhouses; and the said Churchwardens and Overseers of the Poor, or the major Part of them, shall and they are hereby empowered to make a reasonable and competent Allowance to such Clergyman, so long as he performs all the Duties which may be required of him to their Satisfaction, and shall and may make such Allowance out of any Church Rate to be collected in the said Parish.

Power for Rector to appoint a Clergyman to attend the Workhouse.

XXIII. And be it further enacted, That the Property of all and every the Goods, Chattels, Furniture, Provisions, Clothes, Linen, and Wearing Apparel, Tools, Utensils, Materials and Things whatsoever had and to be had, bought, procured and provided for the Use of the Poor of the said Parish, and for carrying into Execution the several Purposes of this Act, shall be, and the same are hereby vested in the Churchwardens and Overseers of the Poor of the said Parish for the Time being, and their Successors, for the Purposes of this Act, who are hereby empowered to bring or cause to be brought any Action or Actions, or to prefer or order the preferring of any Bills of Indictment against any Person or Persons who shall steal, take or carry away such Goods, Chattels, Furniture, Provisions, Clothes, Linen, and Wearing Apparel, Utensils, Materials and Things whatsoever, or any Part thereof, the Property of which said Goods, Chattels, Furniture, Provision, Clothes, Linen and Wearing Apparel, Tools, Utensils, Materials and Things shall be laid in every such Action and Indictment, to be the Property of the Churchwardens and Overseers of the Poor of the said Parish for the Time being, in Manner herein-before directed.

Property of the Goods, &c. for the Use of the Poor, vested in the Churchwardens and Overseers.

XXIV. And be it further enacted, That all Rates, and all the Books of Overseers, and other Books of Accounts concerning Receipts, Payments, Credits and Contracts, and all other Instruments, Documents and Writings relating to the respective Purposes of this Act, shall from Time to Time, and at all convenient Times in the Day-time, at the Vestry Hall of the said Parish, be open to the Inspection and Perusal of any Person or Persons paying to the Rate or Rates to be made in pursuance of this Act, on paying the Sum of One Shilling for such Inspection or Perusal of each and every of the said Rates, Books, and other Writings herein-before mentioned; and that all such Person and Persons may have a Copy thereof, on paying the Sum of Sixpence for every Seventy-two Words, in like Manner and under the like Penalties as is and are declared and provided for the inspecting and taking Copies of the

Books of Accounts, &c. open to the Inspection of Person paying Rates.

[*Loc. & Per.*]

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Accounts

Accounts of Parish Officers, in and by an Act passed in the Seventeenth Year of the Reign of His late Majesty King *George* the Second, intituled, *An Act to oblige Overseers of the Poor to give public Notice of Rates made for the Relief of the Poor, and to produce the same.*

Inhabitants deemed competent Witnesses.

XXV. And be it further enacted, That in all Actions, Prosecutions, Informations, Causes and Proceedings whatsoever, relating to or concerning the Execution of this Act, no Inhabitant of the said Parish shall be deemed incompetent to give Evidence by reason of his or her being rated or assessed by virtue of this Act, any Law, Custom, or Usage to the contrary notwithstanding.

Form of Conviction.

XXVI. And be it further enacted, That in all Cases where any Person or Persons shall be convicted of any Offence committed against this Act, or any Matter in pursuance thereof, the Conviction shall be in the Words, or the Effect following :

{ *Surrey* } BE it remembered, That on the _____ Day of
 { to wit. } _____ in the Year of the Reign of _____
 of His Majesty's
 A. B. is convicted before _____
 Justices of the Peace for the County of *Surrey*, for that he the said A. B.
 did on the _____ Day of _____ in the Year of our Lord
 _____ contrary to an Act made in the Fiftieth Year of King
 George the Third, intituled, [*here set forth the Title of this Act, and specify the Offence.*] Given under our Hands and Seals, [or my Hand and Seal] the Day and Year aforesaid.

Justices may amend, not quash the Rates.

XXVII. Provided always, and be it enacted, That upon an Appeal from such Rates or Assessments, or any of them, the Justices at such General or Quarter Sessions, shall and may amend the same in such Manner as may be necessary for giving Relief, without quashing or altering such Rates or Assessments, with respect to other Persons mentioned in the same; but if upon Appeal from the whole Rate or Assessment, it shall be found necessary to quash and set aside the same, then and in such Case, the said Justices shall and may order a new Rate or Assessment to be made.

Proceedings not to be quashed for Want of Form, nor removeable by Certiorari.

XXVIII. And be it further enacted, That no Order, Judgement, Conviction, or other Proceeding, touching or concerning any of the Matters aforesaid, or touching or concerning the Conviction of any Offender or Offenders against this Act, or any Order made, or any other Matter or Thing to be done or transacted in or relating to the Execution of this Act, shall be vacated or quashed for Want of Form only, or be removed or removeable by *Certiorari*, or any other Writ or Process whatsoever, into any of His Majesty's Courts of Record at *Westminster*, any Law or Statute to the contrary in any wise notwithstanding.

Appeal to the Quarter Sessions.

XXIX. Provided always, and be it enacted, That if any Person or Persons shall think himself, herself, or themselves aggrieved by any such Rate or Rates, Assessment or Assessments, or by reason of any Order, Judgement, or Determination of any Justice or Justices of the Peace, acting in the Execution of this Act, or by any Matter or Thing done in pursuance thereof, then and in every such Case, he, she, or they may appeal to the next General or Quarter Sessions of the Peace, to be holden for the said County of _____ of

of *Surrey*, which shall happen next after the Expiration of Fourteen Days after the Cause of Complaint shall have arisen, such Appellant or Appellants first giving or causing to be given Ten Days Notice, at least, of such Appeal and of the Matter thereof to the Party or Parties appealed against, and within Two Days next after such Notice, entering into a Recognizance in the Sum of Twenty Pounds before some Justice of the Peace for the said County, conditioned for prosecuting such Appeal, and to abide the Order thereon, and to pay such Costs as shall be awarded by the Justices, at such General or Quarter Sessions; and the said Justices assembled at such General or Quarter Session, upon due Proof of such Notice being given, and of entering into such Recognizance, shall hear and determine the Matter of such Appeal in a summary Way, and award such Costs to the Party appealing or appealed against, as they the said Justices shall think proper, and also to order and award such Satisfaction to be made to the Party injured as they shall think reasonable.

XXX. And be it further enacted, That no Action or Suit shall be brought or commenced against any Person or Persons for any Thing done under colour of or in pursuance of this Act, but within Three Months after the Fact shall have been committed, out of which the Cause of such Action shall have arisen; and every such Action shall be laid and brought in the County of *Surrey*, and not elsewhere: Provided also, that no Plaintiff or Plaintiffs shall recover in any Action for any Irregularity, Trespass, or other Proceeding, unless Notice in Writing shall have been given to the Person or Persons against whom the same is intended to be brought, or left at his, her, or their last or usual Place of Abode Twenty-one Days before such Action shall be commenced, signed by the Attorney for the Plaintiff or Plaintiffs, specifying the Cause of such Action, nor shall the Plaintiff or Plaintiffs recover in such Action, if Tender of sufficient Amends shall be made by or on the Behalf of the Party or Parties who shall have committed, or caused to be committed, the said Fact, before such Action brought; and in case no such Tender shall have been made, it shall and may be lawful for the Defendant or Defendants in any such Action, by Leave of the Court where such Action shall depend, to pay into the Court such Sum of Money as he, she, or they shall think fit, whereupon such Proceedings or Order and Judgement shall be had, made, or given in and by such Court, as in other Actions where the Defendant is allowed to pay Money into Court.

Limitation of Actions.

Plaintiff not to recover, if Tender of Amends made.

XXXI. Provided also, That the Defendant or Defendants in all and every such Action or Actions may plead the General Issue, and give this Act and the special Matter in Evidence at any Trial to be had thereupon, and that the same was done in pursuance of and by Authority of this Act; and if upon the Trial of such Action or Suit it shall appear to be so done, or that such Action or Suit shall have been brought before the Expiration of Twenty-one Days next after such Notice shall have been given as aforesaid, or after a sufficient Satisfaction made, tendered, or paid into Court as aforesaid, or after the Time limited for bringing the same as aforesaid, or shall be brought or laid in any other County than as aforesaid, then and in such Case the Jury shall find for the Defendant or Defendants; and if the Plaintiff or Plaintiffs shall become nonsuited, or discontinue his, her, or their Action or Actions, or if a Verdict shall be found against the Plaintiff

General Issue.

Treble Costs. Plaintiff or Plaintiffs, or if upon Demurrer Judgement shall be given against the Plaintiff or Plaintiffs, then and in every such Case the Defendant or Defendants shall and may recover Treble Costs, and have the like Remedy for the same as any Defendant or Defendants hath or have for Costs of Suit in other Cases by Law.

Costs of Act, how to be defrayed. XXXII. And be it further enacted, That all Costs, Charges and Expences of passing this Act, and all other Charges incident to the obtaining thereof, or incurred in relation thereto, shall be borne, paid, and defrayed out of the first Monies which shall arise or be collected out of any Rate or Assessment made or to be made for the Relief and Maintenance of the Poor of the said Parish of *Lambeth*.

Publick Act. XXXIII. And be it further enacted, That this Act shall be deemed and taken to be a Publick Act, and shall be judicially taken notice of as such by all Judges, Justices and others, without being specially pleaded.

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